

Message

From: Ross, Mary [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=98359CD1F66F46EC91D327E99A3C6909-ROSS, MARY]
Sent: 9/27/2015 11:04:16 PM
To: ORD-NCEA [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9fd27be854b0475e8c7da44e626886aa-ORD-NCEA]
Subject: Fw: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

For your info - in this week's ORD report to the Administrator, you'll see mention of the SAB review of EPA's draft "fracking" report, and ORD support to the World Health Organization's work on air quality guidelines.

From: Blackburn, Elizabeth
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2015 2:12 PM
To: ORD-Mgmt-Council; ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support; ORD-Exec-Council-Directors
Subject: Fwd: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Hi all

Please see Tom's note to the Administrator this week. I hope you're enjoying a lovely fall weekend.

Liz

Liz Blackburn
Chief of Staff
USEPA Office of Research and Development
202-564-2192
Cell Personal Matters / Ex. 6
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burke, Thomas" <Burke.Thomas@epa.gov>
Date: September 27, 2015 at 12:30:06 PM EDT
To: "Adm13McCarthy, Gina" <Adm13McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov>, "Meiburg, Stan" <Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov>, "Fritz, Matthew" <Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov>, "Reynolds, Thomas" <Reynolds.Thomas@epa.gov>, "Garbow, Avi" <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>, "Beauvais, Joel" <Beauvais.Joel@epa.gov>, "Vaught, Laura" <Vaught.Laura@epa.gov>, "Rupp, Mark" <Rupp.Mark@epa.gov>, "Pieh, Luseni" <Pieh.Luseni@epa.gov>, "Garvin, Shawn" <garvin.shawn@epa.gov>
Cc: "Kadeli, Lek" <Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov>, "Kavlock, Robert" <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>, "Blackburn, Elizabeth" <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Robbins, Chris" <Robbins.Chris@epa.gov>, "Deener, Kathleen" <Deener.Kathleen@epa.gov>, "Smith, Kelley" <Smith.Kelley@epa.gov>, "Hubbard, Carolyn" <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Administrator,

I am pleased to submit our ORD/OSA Weekly Report.

This is the week of citizen science. I look forward to kicking off the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) meeting on September 28th. The NACEPT will provide advice and recommendations to you in September 2016 on developing a cohesive EPA strategy for citizen science.

I will also be visiting the joint meeting with the European Union Delegation to the United States, European Environment Agency (EEA), and the World Resources Institute on September 29th, to discuss sustainability, EPA's Report on the Environment, and the EEA's The European Environment – State and Outlook 2015.

September 30th White House Forum on open science and innovation - The ORD innovation team played a lead role in organizing the OSTP forum (see recent announcement), which will bring together experts and practitioners to showcase crowdsourcing and citizen science that support the work of Federal agencies. EPA organized a morning session on community monitoring of pollution. The afternoon breakout discussions include several environmental topics, including lakes, drought, pollinators and oceans.

Launch of Federal Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing Toolkit – Over the past year, the innovation team led a multi-agency workgroup that prepared the content for the website, with the goal of helping federal employees understand and use crowdsourcing and citizen science tools. Dr. Holdren will announce the launch of this new web resource at the opening of the White House Forum. The audience for the toolkit are the 2.8 million Federal employees.

International Effort to Draft New Ecosystem Water Quality Guidelines

The week of September 27, ORD's Joe Flotemersch, will travel to Bonn, Germany to participate in a United Nations Environment Programme meeting on the development of International Water Quality Guidelines for Ecosystem (IWQGES). He was invited to lend his expertise in rivers and streams bioassessment to the eight-

scientist drafting team that has been working on the draft guidelines over the past two years.

EPA/USAID Water and Sanitation in West Africa

During the week of September 28, ORD and OITA will participate in a scoping mission to Accra, Ghana, as part of the EPA's partnership with USAID on Water and Sanitation in West Africa. The overall goal of the initiative is to build capacity for providing safe drinking water in urban areas of West Africa by strengthening governance, building lab capacity, and increasing public awareness. The EPA team will meet with government officials, water utilities, the Water Research Institute, and others. The team will also participate in the African Water Safety Planning Network meeting and conduct a lab capacity building workshop.

ORD Advises World Health Organization (WHO)

September 29-October 1, ORD scientists will travel to Bonn, Germany to advise the WHO on the selection of chemicals/pollutants in ambient air of importance for public health. ORD contributed summary materials in early September to WHO describing the state-of-the science pertaining to 20 chemicals that are under consideration and will be discussed at the meeting.

Hydraulic Fracturing

September 29 -October 1, the SAB Hydraulic Fracturing Research Advisory Panel will convene a public teleconference to discuss EPA's external review draft Assessment of the Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing for Oil and Gas on Drinking Water Resources. The panel members will be briefed on EPA's draft assessment, discuss a summary of written public comments, and review charge questions. This SAB panel will hold a final public teleconference on October 19 prior to a three day face-to-face meeting in Washington D.C. on October 29-30.

United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) Receive Tribal-FERST Training

September 29 – October 1, ORD will participate in the USET-led Tribal-FERST (Tribal-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool) training session. This is the third hands-on training session hosted by USET in partnership with EPA, which will focus on maintaining the health of Indian people by determining possible causal environmental relationships. American Indian tribes and Alaskan

Native villages have been invited to attend. USET is a consortium of 27 federally recognized tribes and is the largest tribally funded regional organization.

RTP's STEM Outreach Program Annual Open House

The RTP STEM Outreach Program will be hosting its annual open house on September 30th. Attendees will see STEM hands-on activities and kits that are available for employees to use in the classroom for grades K thru 12. There will also be a formal training session where participants will learn how to use four of the program's favorite activities.

Last Week

Science and Technology Policy Council

Last week the STPC met to discuss a new draft charter, aimed at improving communication and responsiveness to the Agency science needs. Dr. Tom Sinks was introduced as the new Director of the Office of the Science Advisor.

Bakken Crude Oil Decontamination Research at the Water Security Test Bed

Recent releases of Bakken oil have raised concerns about the potential impacts to drinking water systems. For example, a January 2015 pipeline break contaminated the Yellowstone River leading to local distribution system contamination. During the week of Sept. 21-25, ORD researchers conducted a crude oil decontamination experiment at the Water Security Test Bed at Idaho National Lab. The study will use North Dakota Bakken crude oil-contaminated water to simulate contaminated river water entering a distribution system. Staff from Region 8, where a great amount of transport of Bakken crude takes place, were on-site to monitor the experiment and discuss ideas for future research.

WUNC-TV Interview Focuses on Air Quality Monitoring Technology

WUNC-TV reporter Frank Graff visited EPA's main campus in RTP and the Village Green Project station in Durham on September 24 for a story on citizen science and air quality monitoring. The segment and another story on computational toxicology research, will air on the North Carolina Now show. Ron Williams (ORD) was interviewed on citizen science and air quality monitoring; Heidi Paulsen (OEI) was interviewed on the new Real-time Geospatial viewer (RETIGO) tool

available to help citizens visualize and analyze collected air quality data; and Chet Wayland (OAQPS) was interviewed on air quality monitoring.

ORD Interviewed on Clean Cookstoves

ORD's Jim Jetter, a lead for the cookstoves research program, was interviewed last week by Marc Gunther from the Guardian Sustainable Business. Gunther is researching a story about clean cookstoves, with a focus on the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. He is interested in up-to-date emissions and efficiency test results of some of the most popular cookstoves; in particular the Greenway Smart stove, the Envirofit stove, and the Biolite stove.

Publications

ORD Paper Published on the Efficacy of *Burkholderia pseudomallei* Decontamination Methods

The recent incidents of Avian Influenza, Ebola, and *Burkholderia* have highlighted the need for effective yet widely-available decontamination options to reduce the risk of contaminant or disease spread. A recently published article titled, Inactivation of *Burkholderia pseudomallei* on Environmental Surfaces using Spray-Applied, Common Liquid Disinfectants, published in Letters in Applied Microbiology, describes the effectiveness of five commercially-available liquid antimicrobials when spray-applied to common environmental surfaces contaminated with *Burkholderia pseudomallei*. Studies such as this aid EPA responders in rapidly implementing effective remediation plans.